

February 3, 2016,

Dear Fellow Texan,

I hope you and your family had a wonderful Christmas and are having a great start to 2016. Janet and I enjoyed the time off with our family and friends in House District 127. My staff and I have been hard at work compiling legislation for the upcoming 85th Legislative Session, beginning January 2017.

The new year is off to a bang, and you'll be able to see what's been happening at home and in Austin for the month of January in this edition of my monthly newsletter.

One important change that has happened at the Capitol in Austin is that we have received new email addresses. Don't worry, our old email addresses will work for the next month, but please note that our email addresses have changed. The changes are reflected in the Contact Us links at the bottom of the email, but they are also listed below:

<b>Dan Huberty</b> <b>State Representative</b>	<b>Casey Christman</b> <b>Chief of Staff</b>	<b>Ben Melson</b> <b>Legislative Director</b>	<b>Molly Spratt</b> <b>Legislative Aide</b>
District127.Huberty@house.texas.gov	Casey.Christman@house.texas.gov	Ben.Melson@house.texas.gov	Molly.Spratt@house.texas.gov

If you have questions about other specific policy areas, or need anything at all, please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff. You can find my staff and my contact information at the bottom of this email. We're always happy to help you.

Sincerely,

*Dan*

Dan Huberty



# What's Going on in Austin?

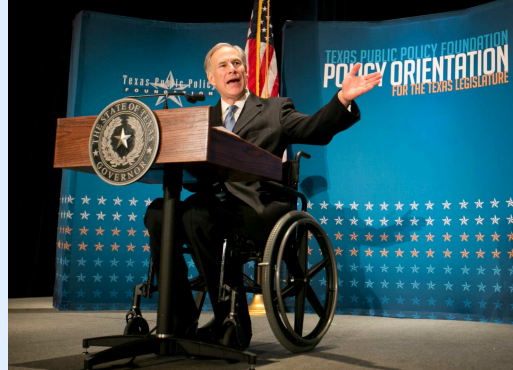
## Governor Abbott Calls for Convention of States

Governor Greg Abbott called for nine constitutional amendments that would rein in the Federal Government. His focus is on Article 5 of the U.S. Constitution. Over the past the several years, Abbott has taken on the federal government -- specifically President Barack Obama's administration -- on everything from healthcare to gun rights to immigration. The amendments would do the following:

1. Prohibit Congress from regulating activity that occurs wholly within one State.
2. Require Congress to balance its budget.
3. Prohibit administrative agencies- and the unelected bureaucrats that staff them- from creating federal law.
4. Prohibit administrative agencies- and the unelected bureaucrats that staff them- from preempting state law.
5. Allow a two-thirds majority of the States to

- override a U.S. Supreme Court decision.
6. Require a seven-justice super-majority vote for U.S. Supreme Court decisions that invalidate a democratically enacted law.
7. Restore the balance of power between the federal and state governments by limiting the former to the powers expressly delegated to it in the Constitution.
8. Give state officials the power to sue in federal court when federal officials overstep their bounds.
9. Allow a two-thirds majority of the States to override a federal law or regulation.

Governor Abbott made the announcement earlier this month at the Texas Public Policy Foundation's Policy Orientation. [Watch the Coverage of the Announcement Here!](#)



Governor Abbott at the Texas Public Policy Foundation's Policy Orientation for the Texas Legislature.

## Rep. Huberty Explains the Importance of Property Owner Rights at Texas Public Policy Foundation's Policy Orientation



Pictured L to R: Sen. Donna Campbell, Rep. Dan Huberty, and U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm

Last month, Representative Huberty had the honor of serving on a panel at the Texas Public Policy Foundation's annual conference event to discuss the topic of annexation. Former U.S. Senator Phil Gramm and Texas Senator Donna Campbell joined Rep. Huberty to discuss what progress was made during the 84th legislative session and what the plan is to continue to fight for property owner's rights in the upcoming session.

During the 84th session, Rep. Huberty's House Bill (HB) 2221 attempted to prevent the unauthorized annexation of

an area without the consent of property owners. This bill would not have prevented cities from being able to annex. Instead, it would have ensured that property owners rights are protected by allowing proposed annexation areas to have a say in their own future. In Rep. Huberty's home district, District 127, the residents of Kingwood did not get a say or a vote when they were forcefully annexed and brought into the city of Houston in the 1990s.

"Forced annexation, be it traditional annexation or limited-purpose annexation, gives complete authority to a city and no authority to unincorporated property owners." Rep. Huberty stated during the panel. "Cities end up treating forced annexation as a way to extract revenue from unwilling residents, who chose to live outside the city in the first place. This is exactly what Houston successfully accomplished in my district and it must be stopped in the future."

Texas has fallen behind other states with regards to annexation reform. After many years of talking about such reform, it's time for the Legislature to act to ensure that unincorporated property owners' rights are protected and that they have a voice in the process.

[You can watch the panel here!](#)



Rep. Huberty, Kingwood Tea Party Founder Robin Lennon, and Former U.S. Senator Phil Gramm

## Rep. Huberty Discusses College-Readiness at Texas Association of Business's 2016 Board Meeting

January 6, 2016 -- Representative Huberty spoke at Texas Association of Business's Annual Conference on the "Workforce Tomorrow: Creating Texas Talent for Business Sustainability" panel. With Texas's quickly growing population, physicians are in short supply. Rep. Huberty and the rest of the panelists discussed the need for residency spots for Texas-trained medical students.

"We hate to spend money on educating medical students, just to have them leave Texas," Rep. Huberty said. "Kids are starting earlier and



Pictured L to R: Chancellor Lee Jackson, Senator Kel Seliger, Moderator Dr. Oliver Bolger, Rep. Dan Huberty, and Chancellor Veronica "Ronnye" Stidnye



earlier. Medical and nursing professions are real options for high school students to get involved with. For example, my daughter wants to go into the medical field, so we're getting her into the classes she will need to pursue her dreams."

The panel also discussed the importance of funding for higher education and ensuring that Texas students are college and career ready.

At the conference, Rep. Huberty was awarded with the Champion for Free Enterprise, the highest honor that a lawmaker can receive from the Texas Association of Business.

## Rep. Huberty Honored as *2015 Haden McKay MD Citizen of the Year*



Rep. Huberty and his family with the Citizen of the Year award.  
L to R: Ryan Huberty, Janet Huberty, Rep. Huberty, Brianna Huberty, and Dylan

On January 22, 2016, Rep. Huberty was honored with the Haden McKay Citizen of the Year Award. Additionally, the Mayor of Houston Sylvester Turner and the Mayor of Humble, Merle Aaron both named January 22, 2016 "Dan Huberty Day" in their cities. You can read more about the event, as well as a profile on Rep. Huberty in the links below.

[Lake Houston Area Chamber honors members through Awards Extravaganza \(Your Houston News\)](#)

[Lake Houston honoree's focus has always been on education \(Your Houston News\)](#)

## Primary Early Voting February 16, 2016

Mark your calendars! Early voting for the Texas Primary Election begins on February 16 and lasts until February 26. **March 1, 2016 is primary election day.** Be sure to take this time to see if you're registered to vote. The last day to register for the primary election was February 1, 2016, but don't worry, you'll still be eligible to vote in the general election on **November 8, 2016**, if you register by October 11, 2016.

[Find out more at HarrisVotes.com!](http://HarrisVotes.com)

## Student Heroes Program



## **Nominations being accepted for Student Heroes Program**

AUSTIN – The State Board of Education (SBOE) is now accepting nominations for the 2016 Student Heroes Award.

The Student Heroes awards program recognizes Texas public school students in prekindergarten through high school who do outstanding things to benefit their fellow Texas students.

SBOE Chair Donna Bahorich urged school leaders to nominate those students who are shining examples of good character and citizenship for their communities.

"We have so many wonderful students who give so much of their time to benefit Texas students, schools and communities," Bahorich said. "These unselfish acts of kindness should be spotlighted and recognized by all."

One student per each of the 15 State Board of Education districts can be recognized for this annual honor. Anyone may nominate a public school student for the award. Award requirements include:

- The service/assistance or good deed must be voluntary and not part of any curriculum, graduation requirements or class or community project.
- The service/assistance or good deed must benefit other students in Texas, either individually or as a whole.
- The benefit may be to students of one campus, a district or a community.

Recipients of the Student Heroes awards will be announced in May. A certificate of recognition will be awarded to the Student Hero by his or her State Board of Education member. The deadline for nominations is March 11.

Nomination forms and program guidelines are available at [http://tea.texas.gov/About\\_TEA/News\\_and\\_Multimedia/Awards/Student\\_Heroes/](http://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/News_and_Multimedia/Awards/Student_Heroes/) or for more information please email [heroes@tea.texas.gov](mailto:heroes@tea.texas.gov).

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# 2016 Census Test

## Preparing for the 2020 Census



### Harris County, TX

The Census Bureau will conduct a 2016 Census Test in selected areas of Harris County, Texas. The test area includes approximately 225,000 housing units.

Census Day is April 1, 2016.

The U.S. Census Bureau is researching modern and cost-efficient methods for the population to exercise its civic obligation to be counted in the 2020 Census. Whether through the Internet, telephone, traditional paper questionnaires, or in-person visits, the Census Bureau is committed to making the mandatory once-a-decade headcount quick, easy, and safe for all to participate.

The 2016 Census Test will allow the Census Bureau to, on a small scale, employ a variety of new methods and advanced technologies that are under consideration for the 2020 Census. The Census Bureau will test new design, implementation, and management processes. We will also evaluate new technology for collecting and processing responses to the census.

### The Purpose of the 2016 Census Test in Harris County

The 2016 Census Test will allow the Census Bureau to study a variety of new methods and advanced technologies that are under consideration for the 2020 Census. The primary focus of the test is to refine the methodology for nonresponse follow-up — the operation conducted to personally visit households that do not respond to the census. The Census Bureau also will refine methods and related activities for maximizing self-response (particularly via the Internet) to the 2020 Census. Testing in two sites will allow us to learn more about managing new systems simultaneously in multiple locations.

### Goals

- Refine technologies and methods for assigning cases to field staff conducting nonresponse follow-up and continue to refine the use of mobile technology for data collection and case management.
- Continue to research how best to use existing government and commercial information to reduce the follow-up workload (ex. Using records to identify vacant units or to reduce additional visits for households we are unable to contact).
- Study partnership and outreach efforts for communicating with historically hard-to-count populations, including providing assistance in multiple languages.
- Continue to explore self-response options, including how people respond using the Internet, mobile devices, the telephone, and paper questionnaires. Additionally, the test supports continued refinement of methods to process responses in real time submitted without a unique Census-provided address identification code (non-ID processing).

### Hiring Information

During the 2016 Census Test, there will be temporary full-time and part-time jobs available in the Harris County test site area. Pay ranges from \$22.25 to \$25.25 per hour. Recruitment for these positions began in October 2015. For more information, call the toll-free recruiting line for Harris County, TX at 1-800-361-6891.

For more information, visit [census.gov](http://census.gov).

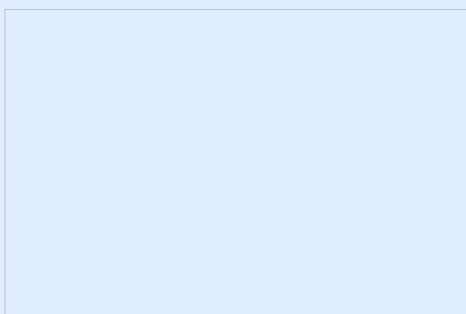


U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
[census.gov](http://census.gov)



SA-542/1 (EN)

## Drone Registration: Policies and Requirements



The Federal Aviation Association (FAA) now requires all drones weighing between 0.55 pounds and 55 pounds to be registered with their association. This new registration system came right before the holidays, in order to ease some of their concerns about interference with air traffic in the United States. Accordingly, all drones purchased before December 21, 2015 must be registered with the FAA by February 19, 2016. Any drones purchased after the December 21st date must be registered before their first flight.

The need for this registration came from irresponsible owners who did not understand the potential danger associated with flying a drone too close to an airplane or other manned aircraft. When problems did arise, the drones (or sometimes wreckage of drones) couldn't be traced to their owners to track down the culprits. With the new registration policy in place owners must provide their name, physical address and email address. Drone owners will need to pay a \$5 registration fee, and in return, they will receive a registration number that they must put on their drones and will be valid for 3 years.

If a drone owner chooses not to register their aircraft, there is a maximum civil penalty up to \$27,000 from the FAA. In addition to the civil penalty, an unregistered drone could cause an owner to face criminal penalties including jail time and fines up to \$250,000.

## House District 127 January Events

### January 4, 2016

Rep. Huberty attended the City of Houston swearing-in ceremonies supporting





### January 16, 2016

Rep. Huberty with HD 127 constituents walking for the Houston Area Parkinson's Society for the Chevron Houston Charity 5K.



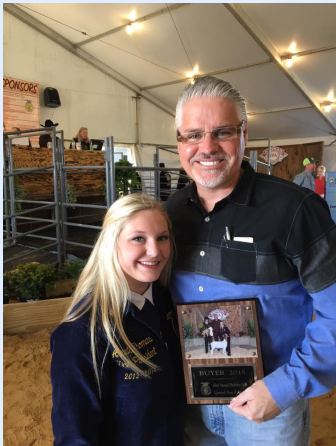
### January 23, 2016

At the FamilyTime Gala Paddle Call, Rep. Huberty was able to raise over \$44,000 in a matter of minutes to help the wonderful organization.



### January 30, 2016

Rep. Huebrty at the Huffman FFA Livestock Show & Auction. He purchased a lamb raised by Haley Folks, rabbits from Lacey Candelet and a turkey from my good friend, Grace Foster. He also ran into Alexis Thomas who raised the goat that he purchased last year.



## Upcoming Events

February 2016

See an event you're interested in? Click the links on each date to learn more about the event's details. Under each link, you can find R.S.V.P. information, exact times, locations, and much more.

This color box indicates an event in or near House District 127.	This color box indicates an event in Austin, Texas.
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 <a href="#">Lake Houston Area Planning Council (11:30 A.M. at Lonestar College - Kingwood)</a>	2	3	4	5 <a href="#">Humble ISD BBQ Cook-Off (Day 1)</a>	6 <a href="#">Humble ISD BBQ Cook-Off (Day 2)</a>  <a href="#">Lake Houston YMCA Annual BridgeFest</a>
7	8	9 <a href="#">Leadership Lake Houston</a>	10	11 <a href="#">BizCom-Summer Creek</a>	12 <a href="#">Humble ISD BBQ Rodeo (Day 1)</a>  <a href="#">Humble ISD Livestock Auction Luncheon</a>	13 <a href="#">Humble ISD BBQ Rodeo (Day 2)</a>
14	15 <b>Presidents Day</b>	16 <b><a href="#">EARLY VOTING BEGINS</a></b>	17 <a href="#">Humble ISD Council of PTA's Founders Day Luncheon</a>	18	19 <a href="#">HAAM Pillars of the Community</a>	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 <b><a href="#">EARLY VOTING ENDS</a></b>	27
28	29	1	2	3	4	5

# Contact Information

Staff Contact	Capitol Office	District Office
<b>Representative Dan Huberty</b> <a href="#">Email Dan</a>	<b>Physical Address:</b> 1100 Congress Avenue E2.722 Austin, TX 78701	<b>Address:</b> 4501 Magnolia Cove Suite 201 Kingwood, TX 77345
<b>Casey Christman</b> <b>Chief of Staff</b> <a href="#">Email Casey</a>	<b>Mailing Address:</b> P.O. Box 2910 Austin, TX 78768	<b>Phone:</b> (281) 390-9410
<b>Ben Melson</b> <b>Legislative Director</b> <a href="#">Email Ben</a>	<b>Phone:</b> (512) 463-0520	
<b>Molly Spratt</b> <b>Legislative Aide</b> <a href="#">Email Molly</a>	<b>Fax:</b> (512) 463-1606	

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